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--14. (New) A virus-like particle comprising a protein subunit structure of a papovavirus particle, wherein the particle comprises a protein subunit in the form of a fusion protein comprising (1) a polypeptide sequence derived from a major coat protein of a papovavirus, and (2) an additional peptide sequence, other than a sequence from said major coat protein, fused to the N-terminal of polypeptide sequence (1).

15. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, wherein said fusion protein comprises a sequence derived from a major coat protein L1 of a papillomavirus.

16. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 15, wherein said papillomavirus is a human papillomavirus (HPV) type 16 or 18.

17. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 15, wherein said fusion protein comprises a protein with a sequence selected from the group consisting of (i) a full sequence of a human papillomavirus L1 protein, (ii) a sequence from a human papillomavirus L1 protein having an N-terminal deletion of up to 10 amino-acids, and (iii) a sequence from a human papillomavirus L1 protein with an aminoacid substitution mutation.

18. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, wherein said fusion protein comprises an immunogenic sequence derived from a protein of a pathogen.

19. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, wherein said fusion protein sequence comprises a polypeptide binding domain that enables affinity purification.

20. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, that comprises (a) a conformational epitope corresponding to a native conformational epitope of the structure of a corresponding virus-like particle based on a major coat protein of unmodified sequence, and (b) an immunogenic epitope present on an N-terminal extension of said major coat protein sequence.

21. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, wherein said fusion protein comprises a sequence from a papillomavirus L1 protein fused, at its N-terminus, to a sub-sequence from another papillomavirus protein selected from the group consisting of human papillomavirus (HPV) E1, E2, E6, and E7.

22. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, wherein said fusion protein comprises a peptide sequence comprising at least about 15 amino acid residues that provides at least one epitope of a protein other than said major coat protein.

23. (New) A virus-like particle according to claim 14, wherein said fusion protein comprises an additional peptide sequence fused at the N-terminus of the major coat protein, wherein the additional peptide sequence comprises a polypeptide binding domain that enables affinity purification.

24. (New) A fusion protein comprising (1) a polypeptide sequence derived from a major coat protein of a papovavirus, and (2) an additional peptide sequence, that is not a polypeptide sequence from the major coat protein, fused to the N-terminus of sequence (1).

25. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, wherein the polypeptide sequence derived from a major coat protein is a polypeptide sequence derived from a major coat protein L1 of a papillomavirus.

26. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 25, wherein said papillomavirus is human papillomavirus (HPV) type 16 or 18.

27. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of (i) a full sequence of a human papillomavirus L1 protein, (ii) a sequence from a human papillomavirus L1 protein having an N-terminal deletion of up to 10 amino-acids, and (iii) a sequence from a human papillomavirus L1 protein with an amino acid substitution mutation.

28. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, comprising an immunogenic sequence derived from a protein of a pathogen.

29. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, further comprising a binding domain to enable affinity purification.

30. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, comprising a sequence from a papillomavirus L1 protein fused, at its N-terminus, to a sub-sequence from a further papillomavirus protein selected from the group consisting of human papillomavirus (HPV) E1, E2, E6 and E7.

31. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, comprising a peptide sequence comprising at least about 15 amino acid residues, wherein said peptide sequence provides at least one epitope of a protein other than said major coat protein.

32. (New) A fusion protein according to claim 24, further comprising a further peptide sequence fused at the N-terminus of the major coat protein, wherein said further peptide sequence comprises a his-tag or an epitope recognized by an antibody.

33. (New) A method of producing a fusion protein according to claim 14, comprising:

expressing a polynucleotide encoding said fusion protein in a host cell expression system to produce said fusion protein; and
harvesting said fusion protein.

34. (New) The virus-like particle according to claim 17, wherein said L1 protein has a C-terminal deletion.